

## REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 38, the independent claims are Claims 1, 10, 18 and 28. Claims 1 to 19, 21 to 29 and 31 to 38 have been amended.

In the Official Action dated November 29, 2002, the drawings, specification and abstract were objected to on formal grounds. Claims 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 22, 24, 26, 27, 32, 34, 36 and 37 were objected to on formal grounds. Claims 1 to 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,31,416 (Takagi). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The formal rejection of the claims respectfully is traversed. Applicants submit that the claim language is in compliance with 35 USC 112. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, the claims have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The rejections of the claims over the cited art respectfully are traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claims 1 to 19, 21 to 29 and 31 to 38 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Takagi '416 patent relates to an exposure calculation device for a camera, and discloses a photometry device. However, Applicants submit that the Takagi '416 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above recited features for the present invention. Although the Takagi '416 patent discloses a photometry device including light measuring elements 11a - 11f, (divided elements), Applicants submit that the Takagi '416 patent fails to disclose or suggest the feature wherein photoelectric transfer elements of a first area are shared with the photoelectric elements for a second area, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 28 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 2 to 9, 11 to 17, 19 to 27 and 29 to 38 depend from Claims 1, 10, 18 and 28, respectively, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of independent Claims 1, 10, 18 and 28, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

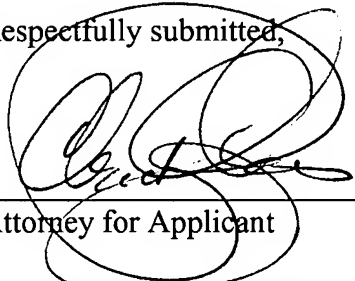
In formal matters, the specification and abstract of the disclosure have been amended as to matters of form, including English spelling, grammar, idiom, syntax and the like. No new matter has been added.

By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted a Request for Approval to Amend the Drawings. In that Request, Applicant has amended Fig. 4, as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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